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Geschichte der Neueren Revolutionen, vom Englischen Puritanismus bis zur Pariser Kommune, 1642-1871. Von Dr. ALEXANDER CARTELLIERI, o.ö. Professor der Geschichte an der Universität Jena. (Leipzig: Verlag der Dykschen Buchhandlung. 1921. Pp. 229. M. 25, bound M. 38.)

It is inevitable that the recrudescence of revolution in the world should turn the attention of historians to the general subject of efforts to alter the form or function of government by force. We may expect a series of studies of revolutionary movements or of revolution in general from their pens. And it is natural that, with their well-known enterprise, the earliest of these should come from the hands of the Germans. The little volume of Professor Cartellieri is doubtless only the forerunner of what we may expect to see in varied and greatly enlarged form; and it is interesting, therefore, not only for itself, but for the promise which it contains.

There was a time, and not so long ago, when such a book would have been pretty generally received more or less uncritically, with the awe-inspiring prestige which attached to all historical work made in Germany. There was something terrifying in the very name of German scholarship, an esoteric quality which set it apart from the work of mere—shall we say?—Americans. The simple fact that it had been written at all, would have convinced many persons that it was a more or less epoch-making work, and they would have been correspondingly awed. That day has passed. If the war has taught us nothing else, it has proved that the work even of German scholars is not above and beyond all criticism, and the least of us may now look upon it as if it had been produced by ordinary human beings. We may venture to judge it by the same standards as we would apply to the labors of our own colleagues. We may even find fault with it.

Professor Cartellieri has to his credit an imposing list of titles. He has published a register of the bishops of Constance, three volumes of a history of Philip Augustus of France, with lesser studies in the same general field, an outline of world history, an account of Weimar and Jena between the years 1806 and 1815, the usual essays on Germany, France, and the war which most of us have written, but which few of us have made into books, and some lectures on the foundation of the German Empire. In other words, his chief work has lain in the field of the Middle Ages, from which safe retreat he has been drawn, naturally and irresistibly, into the less-calm arena of modern politics. He is, therefore, not an individual but a type, and as such deserves some consideration.

His present volume is a book of some 200 pages, carefully indexed, and accompanied by a table of dates and a bibliography. Its character may in some measure be determined by the latter. It contains nine

general studies of revolution, all published in Germany since 1913, and brief lists of the works he has presumably consulted in preparing this series of lectures, now elaborated into a book. That his study has not been profound, these lists witness. For it is difficult to take seriously a volume which so obviously relies on the *Histoire Générale*, on Seignobos, Lodge, Montague, Madelin, and Taine, even though it owes something apparently to Aulard, Macaulay, Brosch, von Sybel, Stern, and Sorel.

In brief, we have here what the author would, possibly, be the first to admit, a series of more or less hastily compiled lectures, corrected and revised for publication. In some measure he does admit this in his preface, however qualifiedly. But no one could pretend that this is more than the first word on the subject. It is true, as he says, that there is no other such work—but there will be others. And what he has done is scarcely more than to blaze a trail. Not even that, for he has merely retold in briefer form what many men have told before him. His account of the French Revolution of 1789—the longest single section of the book—is the conventional story, whose time is passing. His account of the English revolutions lacks most of the more intimate knowledge which makes them intelligible. He omits all reference to the American Revolution and the Spanish-American revolution, as well as the Greek, the Spanish, and the more recent movements in Germany and Russia. His account of the revolutions of 1848, especially in Central Europe, is perhaps the best part of the book. But neither there nor anywhere else does he take any adequate account of what is, after all, the fundamental quality of revolution, the state of mind of those who conduct it, the psychology of the movements whose external events he describes. Nor could that be expected from one whose life-work has been so largely done in a field far removed from the one he now invades. For it takes more than the reading of Macaulay and Taine to get under the skin of modern revolutions; and Professor Cartellieri must suffer the fate of all insufficiently equipped pioneers in consequence. One who undertakes the difficult and dangerous task of chronicling revolution must know more of the “ungeheuren Literatur” to which he refers in his preface than even “Montague und Lodge, das schöne und unparteiische Werk von A. Sorel sowie die grosse angelegte, inhaltreiche Darstellung von A. Stern”. For, however unique, however useful, his book may be for certain purposes, it cannot be regarded as either authoritative or definitive.

The Kaiser vs. Bismarck: Suppressed Letters by the Kaiser, and New Chapters from the Autobiography of the Iron Chancellor.

With a historical Introduction by CHARLES DOWNER HAZEN, Professor of History, Columbia University. Translated by BERNARD MIALL. (New York and London: Harper and Brothers. 1921. Pp. xxii, 203. \$2.50.)